Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Policy & Programming
Senior Policy Analyst - Transportation (APA102017)
October 3, 2017

Job Category:	Senior
Experience Required:	Minimum 5 years
Salary Range:	$65,700 to $81,453

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is seeking to hire a Senior Policy Analyst to conduct research and analysis related to transportation, freight, land use, and other topics to support development and implementation of the agency's regional plan. CMAP is our region's comprehensive planning organization. The agency and its partners are developing ON TO 2050, a new long-range comprehensive regional plan to help the seven counties and 284 communities of northeastern Illinois implement strategies that address transportation, housing, economic development, open space, the environment, and other quality-of-life issues. See www.cmap.illinois.gov for more information, and details regarding benefits are at www.cmap.illinois.gov/about/careers#benefits.

Position Description

The Senior Policy Analyst will be responsible for quantitative and qualitative analysis across a range of transportation topics to help finalize and implement ON TO 2050. The Senior Policy Analyst will also be responsible for managing projects and representing the agency's perspective on transportation and freight issues with regional, state, and federal partners. Potential projects may include: ongoing analysis of emerging state and federal legislation and regulations, tracking regional trends and transportation performance measures, implementing recommendations and strategies included in the upcoming Regional Strategic Freight Direction, structuring implementation of the ON TO 2050 revenue recommendations, assessing the land use impacts of transportation investment, and/or participating in development of a new vision for the expressway system. Across these projects and tasks, the policy analyst will be expected to emphasize the recommendations of GO TO 2040 and the refinements identified for ON TO 2050.

The ideal candidate for this position will demonstrate knowledge about the interactions between infrastructure, land use, economic development, and regional public policy and show aptitude for translating general policy recommendations into specific projects and policy proposals. Preference will be given to those who possess strong ability to collect and analyze data, manage research, and communicate findings to a broad range of audiences. Candidates should demonstrate progressively responsible analytical, project management, and leadership responsibilities.   All candidates should demonstrate an interest in the complex challenges addressed by long range planning.

Responsibilities

- Manage or support agency projects that analyze transportation, freight, infrastructure, economic, and other relevant public policy issues facing northeastern Illinois and develop regional scale as well as applied planning and policy solutions to meet these challenges.
- Collect and analyze data on transportation, freight, economic, and other regional trends.
- Develop methods of quantitative assessment of transportation projects and policies, particularly focused on land use and economic impacts.
- Write reports, policy updates, and issue briefs that explain data trends, synthesize qualitative analysis, and relate their potential impact on changes in federal, state, or local public policy.
- Engage stakeholders through project-specific interviews, presentations to relevant CMAP committees, managing a CMAP committee, and participation in regional groups, where appropriate.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities
- Demonstrated understanding and/or interest in the complex connections between transportation, development, the metropolitan economy, and regional governance and policy.
- Ability to apply empirical evidence toward practical purposes, superior research and quantitative skills, and take creative approaches to problem solving.
- Successful experience as project manager in developing and managing scope, cost/budget, timeline and deliverables of projects, including business case development, charter to outline goals and objectives, effective integration of project and work plan, and use of project management tools to monitor project performance.
- Excellent writing skills and the ability to communicate effectively on issues of public policy and planning.
- Ability to manipulate and analyze large data sources in spreadsheets, databases, and GIS, generate findings from these data, and communicate results to a non-technical audience, particularly via interactive web content.
- Demonstrated ability to lead complex research projects, and produce reports and issue briefs that are factual, original, compelling, and persuasive.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills and an ability to complement existing projects via independent or team-based work.
- Familiarity with the governance structure in northeastern Illinois is desired.

Education and Experience
An undergraduate degree in Public Policy, Planning, Public Administration, or a related field is required; Master's strongly preferred. A minimum of five years of relevant prior work experience in a research-driven policy, planning, or analytical role is required. Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite, with adaptability to other software. Demonstrated skills with databases, spreadsheets, and Arc/GIS geographic information systems.

How to Apply
Please submit cover letter and résumé via the web at www.cmap.illinois.gov/about/careers. Please refer to **Job Code (APA102017).**

Posting End Date
This posting will close on November 3, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. CST. All applications must be completed and submitted within that timeframe.

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning is an Equal Opportunity Employer.